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COLLEGE DICTIONARY

FOURTH EDITION

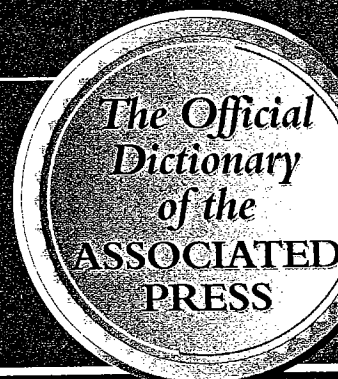
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APPENDIX

watertight / wavy

1618

warblers (genus *Seiurus*), usually found near streams, swamps, etc.

water-tight (-tīt) *adj.* 1 so snugly put together that no water can get in or through 2 that cannot be misconstrued, refuted, defeated, nullified, etc.; flawless [*a watertight excuse, plan, etc.*] — **wa'ter-tight'-ness** *n.*

water torture a form of torture in which water is caused to drip slowly onto the forehead of the immobilized victim

water tower 1 an elevated tank used for water storage and for maintaining equalized pressure on a water system *2 a firefighting apparatus that can be used to lift high-pressure hoses and nozzles to great heights

water turkey ANHINGA

water vapor water in the form of a gas; steam

water-vascular system (-vas'kye lər) in echinoderms, a system of closed tubes and ducts filled with sea water containing some protein, and functioning variously, as in locomotion, food gathering, clinging, and respiration

water-way (-wā) *n.* 1 a channel or runnel through or along which water runs 2 any body of water wide enough and deep enough for boats, ships, etc., as a stream, canal, or river; water route

water-weed (-wēd') *n.* 1 any of various water plants having inconspicuous flowers, as pondweed 2 a North American elodea (*Elodea canadensis*) with white flowers: used in aquariums

water wheel 1 a wheel turned by water running against or falling on paddles, used as a source of power 2 a wheel with buckets on its rim, used for lifting water

water wings a device, inflated with air, used to keep one afloat as while learning to swim: it is shaped somewhat like a pair of wings and is worn under the arms

water witch *1 a person who professes to have the power to find underground water with a divining rod; dowser *2 any of various diving birds, as certain grebes

water-works (-warks') *pl.n.* 1 [*often with sing. v.*] a) a system of reservoirs, pumps, pipes, etc., used to bring a water supply to a town or city b) a pumping station in such a system, with its machinery, filters, etc. 2 [*Slang*] tears: usually in turn on the waterworks, to shed tears; weep

water-worn (-wōrn') *adj.* worn, smoothed, or polished by the action of running water

wa'tery (-ē) *adj.* 1 of or like water 2 containing or full of water; moist 3 thin; diluted [*watery tea*] 4 tearful; weeping 5 in or consisting of water [*a watery grave*] 6 weak; insipid 7 soft or soggy 8 full of, secreting, or giving off a morbid discharge resembling water

***WATS** (wāts) *n.* [*W*] (*wide*) (*area*) (*telecommunications*) (*service*) a telephone service that ties a customer into the long-distance network through special lines so that calls can be made to and received from a defined area or areas at a special rate

Wat-son (wāt'sən, wōt'-) 1 James Dewey 1928-; U.S. biochemist: helped determine the structure of DNA 2 John B. (roadus) 1878-1958; U.S. psychologist

Watson-Watt (wāt'sən wāt'), Sir Robert Alexander 1892-1973; Scot. physicist

watt (wāt) *n.* [*after fol.*: name proposed (1882) by Sir William SIEMENS] the basic unit of electric, mechanical, or thermal power in the SI and MKS systems, equal to one joule per second or 10⁷ ergs per second ($\frac{1}{2}$ of a horsepower): for electric power it is equal to one volt-ampere: abbrev. W

Watt (wāt), James 1736-1819; Scot. engineer & inventor: pioneer in the development of the steam engine

watt-age (wāt'ij) *n.* 1 amount of electrical power, expressed in watts 2 the number of watts required to operate a given device

Wat-teau (vā tō; E wā tō), (Jean) An-toine (ān twān') Fr. painter

watt-hour (wāt'ūr) *n.* a unit of electrical energy or work, equal to one watt acting for one hour, or 3,600 joules

wat-tle (wāt'tl) *n.* [*ME wattel* < OE *wtatl*, a hurdle, woven twigs < ? IE **wedh-*, to knit, bind < base **(a)we-* > WEAVE] 1 a sort of woven work made of sticks intertwined with twigs or branches, used for walls, fences, and roofs 2 [*Brit. Dial.*] a) a stick, rod, twig, or wand b) a hurdle or framework made of sticks, rods, etc. 3 [*pl.*] rods or poles used as the support of a thatched roof 4 [*Austral.*] any of various acacias: the flexible branches were much used by early settlers for making wattles 5 a fleshy, wrinkled, often brightly colored piece of skin which hangs from the chin or throat of certain birds, as the turkey, or of some lizards 6 a barrel of a fish 7 [*often pl.*] a fold or pouch of flesh hanging from the neck or lower part of the jaw — *adj.* made of or roofed with wattle or wattles — *vt.* -tled, -tling 1 to twist or intertwine (sticks, twigs, branches, etc.) so as to form an interwoven structure or fabric 2 to construct (a fence) by intertwining sticks or twigs 3 to build of, or roof, fence, etc. with, wattle

wattle-bird (-bārd') *n.* any of a number of large honeyeaters (genus *Anthochaera*) of Australia and Tasmania, characterized by wattles that hang from the corners of the mouth

wat-tled (wāt'tld) *adj.* 1 built with wattles 2 having wattles, as a bird

watt-meter (wāt'mē'tər) *n.* an instrument for measuring in watts the power in an electric circuit

Watts (wāts), Isaac 1674-1748; Eng. clergyman & writer of hymns

Wa-tusi (wā tō'sē) *n., pl.* -sis or -si a member of a people of Burundi and Rwanda: also *Wa-tut'si* (-tōt'sē)

Waugh (wō), Eve-lyn (Arthur St. John) (ēv'lin) 1903-66; Eng. novelist

Wau-ke-gan (wō kē'gən) [*prob.* < Ojibwa *waakaigan*, fort] city in NE Ill., on Lake Michigan: pop. 69,000

Wau-kesha (wō'ki shō') [*< Algonquian dial., ? lit., fox*] city in SE Wis., near Milwaukee: pop. 57,000

waul (wōl) *vi., n.* [*see CATERWAUL*] wail, squall, or howl

wave (wāv) *vi.* **waved**, **wav'-ing** [*ME waven* < OE *wafian*, akin to Ger *waben*, to fluctuate < IE **webh-*, to move to and fro, prob. identical with **webh-*, to WEAVE] 1 to move up and down or back and forth in a curving or undulating motion; swing, sway, or flutter to and fro: said of flexible things free at one end [*flags waving in the breeze*] 2 to signal by moving a hand, arm, light, etc. to and fro 3 to have the form of a series of curves or undulations [*hair that waves naturally*] — *vt.* 1 to cause to wave, undulate, or sway to and fro 2 to swing or brandish (a weapon) 3 a) to move or swing (something) as a signal; motion with (the hand, arms, etc.) b) to signal (something) by doing this [*to wave farewell*] c) to signal or signify something to (someone) by doing this [*he waved us on*] 4 to give an undulating form to; make sinuous [*to wave one's hair*] — *n.* [*altered (based on the v.)*] < ME *wawe*, a wave 1 a ridge or swell moving along the surface of a liquid or body of water as a result of disturbance, as by wind 2 a) an undulation or series of undulations in or on a surface, such as that caused by wind over a field of grain b) a curve or series of curves or curls, as in the hair c) an appearance of undulation, by reflection of light, on watered fabric 3 a motion to and fro or up and down, such as that made by the hand in signaling 4 something like a wave in action or effect; specif., a) an upsurge or rise, as to a crest, or a progressively swelling manifestation [*a crime wave*, *heat wave*, *wave of emotion*, etc.] b) a movement of people, etc., in groups or masses, which recedes or grows smaller before subsiding or being followed by another [*a wave of immigrants*] 5 [*Old Poet.*] water; esp., the sea or other body of water 6 *Physics* a periodic motion or disturbance consisting of a series of many oscillations that propagate through a medium or space, as in the propagation of sound or light: the medium does not travel outward from the source with the wave but only vibrates as it passes — *make waves* to disturb the prevailing calm, complacency, etc. — *wave'-less* *adj.* — *wave'-like* *adj.* — *wav'er* *n.*

SYN. — *wave* is the general word for a curving ridge or swell in the surface of the ocean or other body of water; *ripple* is used of the smallest kind of wave, such as that caused by a breeze ruffling the surface of water; *roller* is applied to any of the large, heavy, swelling waves that roll in to the shore as during a storm; *breaker* is applied to such a wave when it breaks; or is about to break, into foam upon the shore or upon rocks; *billow* is a somewhat poetic or rhetorical term for a great, heaving ocean wave

Wave (wāv) *n.* a member of the WAVES

wave band *Radio, TV* a specific range of radio frequencies

wave base the depth in a body of water at which the action of surface waves stops stirring the sediments

wave-form (wāv'fōrm) *n.* a graphic representation showing the shape of a wave that is often periodic and usually plotted with the amplitude of the wave on one axis and time on the other axis, as the sine wave of an electronic signal

wave front *Physics* a surface, at right angles to a propagated disturbance, that passes at any given moment through those parts of the wave motion that are in the same phase and are moving in the same direction

wave function *Physics* a mathematical expression, function, or quantity used in quantum mechanics to describe the wave, energy levels, eigenvalues, and locations in space of any moving particle, as an electron in an atom

wave-guide (wāv'gid') *n.* an electric conductor consisting of a metal tubing, usually circular or rectangular in cross section, used for the conduction or directional transmission of microwaves

wave-length (-length') *n.* 1 *Physics* the distance measured in the direction of a wave from any given point to the next point in the same phase, as from crest to crest 2 [*Informal*] a way of thinking, understanding, etc.: chiefly in the phrase on the same wave-length, having mutual understanding; in accord

wave-let (wāv'lit) *n.* a little wave; ripple

Wa-vell (wāv'el), Archibald (Percival) 1st Earl Wavell 1883-1950; Brit. field marshal

wa-vell-ite (wāv'el'it) *n.* [*after W. Wavell* (?-1829), Eng. physician who discovered it] a rare, semihard, orthorhombic mineral, hydrous aluminum phosphate, $Al_3(PO_4)_3(OH)_3 \cdot 5H_2O$, characterized by a radiating, globular structure

wave mechanics the branch of physics that describes the motion of particles, as atoms and elementary particles, by wave motion

wa-ver (wāv'ər) *vi.* [*ME waveren*, freq. of *waven*, to WAVE] 1 to swing or sway to and fro; flutter 2 to show doubt or indecision; find it hard, or be unable, to decide; vacillate 3 to become unsteady; begin to give way; falter 4 to tremble; quaver: said of the voice, etc. 5 to vary in brightness; flicker: said of light 6 to fluctuate 7 to totter — *n.* the act of wavering, trembling, vacillating, etc. — *wa'-verer* *n.* — *wa'-ver-ingly* *adv.*

wa-very (wāv'ər ē) *adj.* wavering [*his wavery voice*]

WAVES (wāvz) *n.* [*orig.* < E[mergency] S[ervice]] the wave train *Physics* a series of regular intervals

wavy (wāv'ē) *adj.* wav'-er, a wavelike motion 3 having hollows; sinuous 4 chattering; fluctuating; unsteady

***wa-wa** (wā'wā) *n. alt. sp.*

wawl (wōl) *vi., n. alt. Brit.*

wax (waks) *n.* [*ME* < OE *weax*, to weave, prob. < ba-

yellow substance secreted by hard when cold and easily (c. 148°F), cannot be dissolved modeling, etc. 2 any plastic substance yielded by plants or by shoemakers to rub on the of substances with a waxy fatty acids, free alcohols, or cylinders formerly used for nograph record: once comm graph record of — *vt.* 1 to wax 2 to remove unwanted waxy substance 3 [*Old Inf.* — *adj.* made of wax — *wax'*

wax (waks) *vi.* **waxed**, **waxing** grow, akin to Ger *wachsen* EKE', L *augere*, Gr *auxein*, to more numerous, etc.; increase said esp. of the visible face new moon in which the li from a thin crescent on the sphere: opposed to WANE (*vi.* become; grow [*to wax angry*]; waxed on and on about his

wax (waks) *n.* [*< ?* prec., as Brit.] a fit of anger or temp

wax bean 1 a variety of k pods 2 the edible immature

wax-berry (waks'ber'ē) *n.* *2 BAYBERRY (sense 1)

wax-bill (waks'bil') *n.* any of birds (family Estrildidae) w some species are kept as caq

waxen (wak'sən) *adj.* 1 n yellowish, soft, smooth, lustrous, etc. 3 covered with wax

waxen (wak'sən) *vi.* *archai*

waxi-ness (wak'sē nis) *n.* a wax insect any of various h that secrete a waxy subst. specif., a Chinese scale insect

wax museum a building or persons, are exhibited

***wax myrtle** an evergreen b North America and having g used for candles

wax palm 1 CARNAUBA 2 a Andes, whose trunk yields a etc.

wax paper a kind of pape paraffin, coating: also *waxec*

wax-weed (waks'wēd') *n.* a strife family, with sticky ste

wax-wing (-wīn') *n.* any of (family Bombycillidae) of the gray silky plumage, a showy secondary wing feathers, as

wax-work (-wark') *n.* 1 wor 2 a human figure made of w

waxy (wak'sē) *adj.* wax'-er, made of wax 2 like wax in ne ing, or, characterized by de of an insoluble, waxlike subs

way (wā) *n.* [*ME* < OE *weg*, a where, to carry, ride, Gr *ocho*. one place to another, as a roac

Way 2 room or space for pa crowd or traffic [*clear a way* f that is or may be used to go i in combination [*highway*, *ra* route or direction [*on the w* habits of life or conduct [*o* action; method or manner [*o* means to an end; method [*a* u

ary manner of living, acting, characteristic manner of actin people/ 9 manner or style [*o* long way off/ 11 direction [*o* this way/ 12 respect; point; p

ways/ 13 what one desires; way/ 14 range or scope, as

came in his way/ 15 relation